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RECORD OF POLITICAL EVENTS.

[From May 11 to November 11, 1896.]

I. THE UNITED STATES.

FOREIGN RELATIONS.—A settlement of the difference with Great Britain on the **Venezuelan boundary question** was announced just at the close of the period under review. During the summer the commission appointed by Mr. Cleveland to ascertain the true divisional line prosecuted researches in various European archives, and subjected to analysis the elaborate "cases" presented by the British and the Venezuelan governments. The commission resumed its regular sessions at Washington, October 10, but suspended work on its report when the settlement by negotiation was reached in November. An eagerness on the part of both Great Britain and the United States to preserve the *status quo* seemed to be indicated by the fact that, when the Venezuelans seized an English surveyor in the disputed region in June (see below, p. 787), the good offices of the United States were asked and promptly given in securing the release of the prisoner. On July 17 was made public the correspondence between the two governments in the negotiations that had been resumed in the spring. The tone and spirit of these later dispatches were far less acrimonious than in the communications published last December. In May Lord Salisbury reiterated his objections to submitting the allegiance of British subjects to the decision of a foreign arbiter, and proposed a commission of four members, two British and two citizens of the United States, who should report upon the facts in regard to the rights of Spain and Holland at the date when Great Britain acquired British Guiana. On the basis of this report he proposed that Great Britain and Venezuela should try to agree on a boundary, failing which the line should be fixed by arbitration, with the proviso that regions occupied by the subjects of either government on or before January 1, 1887, should be left to those governments respectively. Mr. Olney's counter-proposition suggested, as a substitute for this proviso, the following: "That, in fixing such line, if territory of one party be found in the occupation of the subjects or citizens of the other party, such weight and effect be given to such occupation as reason, justice, the rules of international law and the equities of the particular case may appear to require." This suggestion was at once recognized by Great Britain as opening the way to an agreement, but considerable discussion followed looking to a more definite rule as to the determination of the "settled districts." It was finally agreed that occupation for fifty years should be regarded as giving

title by prescription, and that, subject to this rule, all the territory in dispute should be put in arbitration. On November 9 Lord Salisbury declared in his speech at the Lord Mayor's banquet that the controversy was at an end, and this was confirmed by unofficial statements at Washington. Precise information as to the form of the agreement was withheld, however, pending the determination of minor details. Parallel with the negotiations in reference to Venezuela the discussion of a general treaty of arbitration was carried on between London and Washington, and correspondence on this point also was made public on July 17. From this it appeared that Lord Salisbury submitted a project embodying the heads of a treaty which provided for a permanent tribunal to decide differences between the two powers. In certain specified classes of disputes the award of the tribunal was to be final; in those touching territorial rights, sovereignty or jurisdiction, or pecuniary claims of over £100,000, an appeal was allowed to a court consisting of three supreme-court judges of each country; but any difference which either power considered to affect its honor or the integrity of its territory was to be referred to the tribunal only by special agreement. Secretary Olney's reply proposed a modification of this scheme so as to insure that all classes of disputes should fall *prima facie* within the jurisdiction of the tribunal, while leaving to Congress and Parliament the power by special declaration to withdraw a case as involving national honor or territorial integrity. He also proposed important modifications of the method of review established for the more important cases. No agreement was reached on the points of difference up to the end of the published correspondence. — The treaty for the appointment of a joint commission to adjudicate **the claims of Canadian sealers** under the Bering Sea arbitration award was concluded by the exchange of ratifications, June 3. In case of failure of the commissioners to agree, the president of the Swiss Republic is to appoint an umpire. Both Great Britain and the United States have been investigating through experts the alleged inadequacy of the rules prescribed by the Paris tribunal for the preservation of the seal herds. It is reported that Russia and Japan have signified a desire to coöperate in more severe restrictions upon pelagic seal-hunting. — **The filibustering expeditions** in aid of the Cuban insurgents have continued, though many arrests of men and seizures of vessels have been made by the authorities. On July 30 President Cleveland issued a further proclamation of neutrality, explaining in some detail the force and construction of our laws and again warning all persons against their violation. Much irritation had been manifested in Spain at the failure of our government to prevent aid from going to the insurgents, and it was rumored in July that the Spanish foreign office had prepared a circular note to the European powers complaining of the delinquency of the United States. According to the report, it was only the opportune proclamation of the president that prevented the dispatch of the circular note. In October the administration was officially informed that the Spanish supreme court

had upheld the American contention as to the *Competitor* prisoners (see last RECORD), and that the proceedings of the court-martial had been annulled.

INTERNAL ADMINISTRATION.—Questions of finance and currency have alone assumed importance in this field. The maintenance of the gold reserve has again been effected, as a year earlier (*cf.* RECORD for December, 1895, p. 739), through the aid of private financiers, though this time the assistance was not due to any contract with the government. By June 17 the final payments under the bond issue of last February had been made, but though the proceeds of the bonds had been \$111,000,000, the treasury's reserve stood at only \$103,200,194. It was estimated that of the gold paid into the treasury for the bonds, fully forty millions had been taken out of the treasury for the purpose. Withdrawals for export during May and June were heavy; withdrawals for hoarding resulted from the alarm created by the silver movement in politics; and on July 11 the reserve fell below the hundred-million mark. Ten days later it was only \$90,000,000, and the outlook was so gloomy that leading New York bankers organized a movement to turn into the treasury from their own reserves enough gold to sustain the supply until the movement of our crops should end the exportation of the metal. Accordingly, during the week ending July 29 about \$26,000,000 were received by the treasury in exchange for legal-tender notes, and the reserve rose far above \$100,000,000. This movement in aid of the treasury was participated in by banks all over the country. Supplementing these contributions of gold was a pool formed by the leading dealers in foreign exchange to control that business and maintain rates at such a point as to minimize gold exportation. A recognized motive in this whole enterprise was to avoid a new bond issue by the government, which it was feared would strengthen the silver party in the presidential campaign. The undertaking of the bankers was entirely successful. Exports of gold ceased, and the treasury's supply was abundant when, on August 20, the tide definitely turned and the importation of the precious metal began. This movement developed unexpected strength, and soon dispelled the apprehensions of a panic which had prevailed during the summer. A very large proportion of the imported gold was turned into the treasury, which by the end of September held \$120,000,000. The import movement continued on a large scale throughout October, but at that time most of the metal went into private hoards in view of the election. Immediately after the election these hoardings came forth and poured into the treasury at a rate that temporarily overwhelmed the facilities for receiving them. — **The deficit** in the treasury for the year ending June 30 amounted to \$26,042,244, about fifteen millions less than for the preceding year. For the new year expenses ran far ahead of receipts from the outset, and the excess for the first quarter (July, August and September) reached \$24,000,000. — A change in *personnel* of the cabinet took place in August through the resignation of the secretary of the interior, Hoke Smith, and the appoint-

ment as his successor of D. R. Francis, of Missouri. It was understood that the cause of Mr. Smith's retirement was his final resolution, after some vacillation, to support the silver branch of the Democracy, while the president and the rest of the cabinet held to the other branch. — A number of district attorneys were removed from office during the autumn under a ruling of the attorney-general that the retention of such an office was incompatible with candidacy for an elective office, or with active participation in party politics.

CONGRESS. — The adjournment of Congress was reached, June 11, the earliest date of closing for a "long session" in thirty years. Little **general legislation** of importance was completed. In addition to those mentioned in the last RECORD the following acts include all that were of general interest: Repeal of the provision of the tariff law under which a rebate of duty was allowed on alcohol used in the arts; imposition of a tax on the manufacture and sale of "filled cheese"; prohibition of divorce in a territory to any applicant having less than a year's residence therein; modification of the customs administrative law so as to expedite the delivery of small packages imported; restoration to the Mormon Church of the property taken from it at the dissolution of the corporation. — The total of **appropriations** for the session amounted to \$515,759,820.49. In the principal bills the amounts were as follows: Army, \$23,278,402.73; fortifications and ordnance, \$7,397,888; legislative, executive and judicial, \$21,518,834.71; navy, \$30,562,739.95; pension, \$141,328,580; post-office, \$92,571,564.22; river and harbor, \$12,621,800; sundry civil, \$33,031,152.19. Two of the appropriation bills were vetoed by the president, — the River and Harbor Bill, May 29, on the ground that it tended to paternalism and extravagance; and the General Deficiency Bill, June 6, through disapproval of items to satisfy the French Spoliation and other claims. The River and Harbor Bill was promptly passed over the veto, by 220 to 60 in the House and 56 to 5 in the Senate; but on the other measure the veto was sustained in the House by 170 to 39, and the objectionable items were accordingly dropped. The Navy Appropriation Bill provided for three new battleships. In the Indian Bill a provision was inserted, after a long controversy between the two houses, terminating the policy of financial assistance to sectarian Indian schools. — Of measures that made only partial progress the following were of the greatest importance: A national Bankruptcy Bill and a project to establish an educational test for immigrants — passed by the House only; a bill providing for jury trial in certain kinds of contempt of court, and one prohibiting the issue of interest-bearing bonds without the consent of Congress — passed by the Senate only.

THE FEDERAL JUDICIARY. — The following cases have been decided by the Supreme Court of the United States. May 18, *Plessy vs. Ferguson*: Held, that the statute of Louisiana requiring railway companies to provide separate coaches for white and for colored passengers, is a constitutional exercise of the police power of the state, and does not abridge

the equal rights of citizens of the United States. *R. R. Co. vs. Illinois* : Held, that a state law, when so applied as to require a fast-mail train, carrying interstate passengers, to run seven miles out of its route in order to stop at a station for which ample facilities for travel are otherwise provided, is an unconstitutional obstruction of interstate commerce. May 25, *United States vs. Realty Co. and United States vs. Gay* : Held, that the Sugar Bounty Act of 1895 (*cf.* RECORD for December, 1895, p. 737) appropriated money for the discharge of an equitable obligation, and was therefore a constitutional exercise of Congress's power to pay the debts of the United States. *Sheriff vs. Race Horse* : Held, that the clause of the treaty between the United States and the Bannock Indians, by which the latter were entitled to kill game on unoccupied lands, was repealed by the act admitting Wyoming as a state on an equality with the other states, and that therefore the Indians were subject to the game laws of Wyoming (see last RECORD, p. 376).

THE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATIONS.—The Republican National Convention was in session at St. Louis, June 16–18. Before it assembled the course of affairs in the state conventions had indicated very clearly that Mr. McKinley would be the candidate for president and that the platform would declare against the free coinage of silver. On the 18th the platform committee made its report, embodying this plank on the currency: "We are . . . opposed to the free coinage of silver except by international agreement with the leading commercial nations of the world, which we pledge ourselves to promote, and until such agreement can be obtained the existing gold standard must be preserved." A separate vote on this plank resulted in its adoption by 812½ to 110½, whereupon thirty-four delegates, headed by Senator Teller, of Colorado, formally withdrew from the convention. The "bolters" included the entire delegations of Colorado and Idaho, with representatives of Montana, Utah, South Dakota and Nevada. A single ballot sufficed to nominate Mr. McKinley for president, the vote standing: McKinley, 661½; Reed, 84½; Quay, 61½; Morton, 58; Allison, 35½. For vice-president Garrett A. Hobart, of New Jersey, was nominated on the first ballot, receiving 533½ votes, while his nearest competitor, Evans of Tennessee, received only 277½. In addition to the currency plank mentioned above, the platform contained strong demands for protection and reciprocity, "twin measures of Republican policy"; declared that the United States ought to control Hawaii, to own the Nicaragua Canal, to purchase the Danish Islands in the West Indies, to protect at all hazards Americans in Turkey, to prevent European encroachments in America and to use "influence and good offices" for the peace and independence of Cuba; approved the civil service reform and the exclusion of immigrants who can neither read nor write; and condemned lynching. Mr. McKinley, who before the convention had carefully refrained from any definite public declaration of his opinions on the currency question, afterward strongly endorsed the platform on

this point, and in his formal letter of acceptance, August 26, gave to the free-coinage issue the principal place in his argument. — The relatively smooth working of the Republican Party machinery was in sharp contrast with the revolutionary outcome of the **Democratic National Convention** at Chicago, July 7-11. The course of the state conventions during June had rendered it certain that a considerable majority of the delegates to Chicago would favor free coinage. No efforts of the Eastern gold leaders could stem the tide. On June 16 President Cleveland issued an appeal to the Democrats against free coinage, at the same time declaring that he himself wished to be only a private in the ranks of the party. But when the convention assembled, the silver men rejected all overtures looking to moderate measures, put extreme men to the front in both the temporary and the permanent organization, and through the control of the committee on credentials so decided contested elections as to insure a two-thirds majority for free coinage. The report of the platform committee embodied a currency plank demanding "the free and unlimited coinage of both gold and silver at the present legal ratio of 16 to 1, without waiting for the aid or consent of any other nation," and omitted any endorsement of President Cleveland's administration. A minority report favoring the maintenance of the existing gold standard until the coöperation of other nations could be secured for free coinage of silver, and endorsing the administration, was, after a sharp debate, voted down, the first part by 626 to 303 and the second by 564 to 357. After the adoption of the majority report, most of the anti-silver delegates refrained from any further active part in the proceedings, though there was no formal "bolt." The balloting for the presidential candidate, on the 10th, resulted in the choice of Mr. W. J. Bryan, of Nebraska, on the fifth ballot. Mr. Bryan had not been among those prominently mentioned as candidates, but by his speech in the debate on the platform he had won enthusiastic favor with the silver men. Mr. Bland of Missouri led in the voting at the outset, but on the final ballot the numbers stood: Bryan, 500; Bland, 106; Pattison, 95; Matthew, 31; Boies, 26; not voting, 162. For vice-president the convention, on the 11th, nominated Mr. Arthur Sewall, of Maine, on the fifth ballot. The platform, as adopted, set forth at length the leading tenets of the silver party; denounced the issue of bonds in time of peace, and the "trafficking with banking syndicates" to sustain gold monometallism; demanded that paper circulating notes be issued only by the government; favored a tariff for revenue, and condemned changes in the existing tariff except so far as necessary to overcome the deficit; attributed this deficit to the income-tax decision of the supreme court, and criticised that decision; demanded such control of railroads "as will protect the people from robbery and oppression"; denounced "arbitrary interference by federal authorities in local affairs" and "government by injunction"; opposed life tenure in the public service, and third terms in the presidency; endorsed the Monroe Doctrine, sympathized with the Cubans, and demanded unremitting care for, and improvement of, the Mis-

Mississippi River and other great waterways. Mr. Bryan received the formal notification of his nomination at a great public meeting held in New York city, August 12, and in accepting devoted himself almost exclusively to an extended argument in support of free coinage. His letter of acceptance, made public September 9, gave unqualified endorsement to all the planks of the platform, and announced that, if elected, he would under no circumstances be a candidate for a second term. — The national convention of the **People's Party**, or Populists, met at St. Louis, July 22-25. In view of the prominence which the silver issue had assumed, some effort had been made to commit the Populist leaders to the support of Senator Teller, the bolting Republican; but after the Democratic convention, the proposal to endorse Mr. Bryan's nomination won much favor. The convention, however, contained a large number of delegates who were strongly opposed to coalescence with the Democrats. This fact led to a reversal of the usual order of procedure, and to the choice of a candidate for vice-president first. Through this course the "middle-of-the-road" men, as the extremists were called, succeeded in rejecting Sewall, who was distasteful to them as a "plutocrat" and a national-bank director, and in nominating for vice-president Mr. Thomas E. Watson, of Georgia, an uncompromising Populist. Having gained this advantage the extremists became more conciliatory, and Mr. Bryan was chosen as candidate for the presidency on the first ballot, with no important opposition. Though Mr. Bryan had telegraphed that he would refuse the nomination if Mr. Sewall were not nominated also, he did not adhere to this resolution. The platform adopted was in its financial planks substantially the same as that of the Democrats, though demanding definitely a graduated income tax; in addition it favored government ownership of railroads, telegraphs and postal savings banks, direct legislation through the initiative and the referendum, and election of president by direct vote of the people; but it declared that the financial question was the pressing issue of the present campaign. In notifying Mr. Bryan of his nomination the Populist committee in terms absolved him from endorsing the platform as a whole; and in his letter of acceptance the candidate confined himself to a consideration of the currency issue. Owing to the difference in candidates for the vice-presidency, the Democratic and Populist managers, after failing to effect the withdrawal of either Sewall or Watson in the other's favor, arranged for fusion on the electoral tickets in most of the states, in such way that, while all the electors should vote for Bryan, about two-fifths were pledged to Watson and the rest to Sewall. — At the same time with the Populists the National Silver Party, an organization recently formed for the promotion of free coinage, met in convention at St. Louis and unanimously endorsed the nomination of Bryan and Sewall. — The outcome of the Chicago convention was followed at once by very numerous defections from the Democratic Party. From all the states north of the Potomac and Ohio and east of the Mississippi came declarations of refusal by leading Democrats to support either the platform or the

candidate put up at Chicago. While some of the "bolters" declared for McKinley, others began at once a consultation as to the policy of a third ticket. On July 13 the Illinois "sound-money" Democrats took the initiative in moving for a new convention. A conference at Indianapolis, August 7, attended by representatives of thirty-five states, decided the matter definitely, and issued a call for a **convention of the "National Democratic Party,"** to be held in that city on September 2. The convention met accordingly, with 824 delegates, representing all the states except Wyoming, Utah, Idaho and Nevada. Ex-Governor Flower of New York was temporary, and Senator Caffery of Louisiana permanent, chairman. The platform adopted denounced the Chicago platform as undemocratic, and arraigned as alike pernicious the financial doctrine enunciated therein and the tariff doctrine of the Republicans. It then declared in favor of a tariff for revenue only, the single gold standard of monetary measure, a bank currency under governmental supervision, arbitration for the settlement of international disputes, and the maintenance intact of the independence and authority of the supreme court; and it strongly endorsed the administration of President Cleveland. As nominees the convention chose, with practical unanimity, for president, Senator J. M. Palmer, of Illinois, and for vice-president, General S. B. Buckner, of Kentucky. The proceedings of this convention received the public approval of President Cleveland and all his cabinet save Secretary Smith, of the Interior. The supporters of the ticket made, however, no pretence of expecting its election, but only aimed to draw to it enough Democratic votes in doubtful states to insure the defeat of Mr. Bryan. — The Prohibition Party, May 27, nominated at Pittsburg Levering and Johnson as its candidates. A proposal to approve free coinage in the platform was voted down, and this result occasioned a "split" and the nomination of another ticket by the minority. The Socialist Labor Party, at New York, July 9, put up on its ticket Matchett and Maguire.

THE NATIONAL ELECTIONS. — The voting on November 3 resulted in the triumph of the Republicans and the election of McKinley and Hobart. The latter carried all the states north of the Potomac and Ohio and east of the Mississippi by heavy majorities. West of the Mississippi Minnesota, Iowa and North Dakota went Republican by substantial majorities, and California and Oregon by closer votes. South of the Ohio West Virginia went strongly Republican, and Kentucky gave McKinley a plurality of about 250, with one elector for Bryan owing to mistakes in marking ballots. Of the states carried by Bryan, South Dakota and Wyoming were very close. Tennessee and North Carolina showed great Republican gains, and charges were freely made that the ultimate result in favor of Bryan was reached through fraud in the count. The total electoral vote, as returns stood at the end of this RECORD, would be 272 for McKinley and 175 for Bryan. Of the popular vote, McKinley's plurality was over a million. In Pennsylvania he had 295,000 over Bryan; in New York, 273,000; in

Massachusetts, 160,000; in Illinois, 144,000; in New Jersey, 86,000. Bryan's plurality exceeded 100,000 only in Texas and in Colorado. The vote for Palmer and Buckner was everywhere insignificant. — The voting for Congress resulted in a Republican plurality of about 70 in the next House of Representatives, with a Populist delegation of thirteen. The Senate seems likely to be very close, with probably a majority opposed to free coinage.

ELECTIONS FOR STATE OFFICERS. — The disputed election in Louisiana (see last RECORD) was settled by a compromise under which the Democratic governor was seated without serious opposition; but on the understanding that a new election law should be passed, which should render impossible in the future the frauds which were generally acknowledged to have been committed, and, further, that a constitutional convention should be held as soon as possible, to change the qualifications for the suffrage so as effectually to restrict the black vote. Oregon, June 1, was carried by the Republicans, with considerable gains for the Populists. Alabama, August 3, gave a heavy Democratic majority over a fusion of Republicans and Populists. Vermont, September 1, and Maine, September 14, gave unprecedented Republican pluralities, nearly 40,000 in the former and 50,000 in the latter. On the other hand, in Arkansas, September 6, in Florida, October 6, and in Georgia, October 7, the Democrats won by 52,000, 18,000 and 30,000 respectively. In the voting on November 3 the states that were carried by McKinley quite generally chose Republican state officers. Of particular interest was the defeat of the Democratic Governor Altgeld, who was running for a second term in Illinois, and who had incurred much odium by pardoning the Chicago anarchists. The Bryan states for the most part chose Democratic state officers, though through fusion the Populists in some cases secured the governorship, *e.g.*, in Kansas and Nebraska. — A primary election of the Democratic Party in South Carolina, September 8, to name the party's choice for candidate for United States senator, resulted in the triumph of Judge Earle over Governor Evans. As the latter was the candidate of Senator Tillman, long the leader of the party, the result was regarded as pointing to the decline of the latter's power.

VARIOUS STATE LEGISLATION. — The Raines Liquor-Tax Law, which went into full effect in New York in July, produced a revenue fully one-third greater than was anticipated, and is generally regarded as very successful. The number of saloons in the cities was materially reduced by the increase of the license fee, and the restrictions as to Sunday selling were made generally effective, though some opportunities for evasion were found in the special provisions of the law as to hotels and clubs. — An amendment repealing the clause of the constitution of South Dakota which prohibited the sale of liquor was ratified at the November election. — The Illinois Flag-Raising Law, requiring under penal sanction the display of the national colors on schools and other public buildings, was declared unconstitutional, so far as the sanction was concerned, by the circuit court of the

state, June 26. Laws of similar import have been enacted by a large number of the states during the last two years. — In Louisiana a proposed constitutional amendment establishing a property or intelligence qualification for the suffrage failed of ratification in the April elections. The legislature, in its summer session, enacted an Australian ballot law, and took the preliminary steps towards another constitutional convention to deal with the suffrage question. — A woman-suffrage amendment to the constitution of California was rejected at the November election by 15,000 majority. In Idaho a like amendment received a majority of votes cast on the question, but there was uncertainty as to whether this was legally sufficient for ratification. — At the end of October the New York Court of Appeals declared unconstitutional a law requiring a bi-partisan police board for Albany, on the ground, chiefly, that such a requirement established an extra-constitutional test of eligibility to office. — In Florida the courts in October held unconstitutional the law prohibiting the teaching of whites and negroes in the same school. The ground of the decision was technical and did not touch the subject-matter of the law. — In Illinois the supreme court, November 9, declared the Torrens land-registration act unconstitutional.

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT. — Through a victory won in the spring elections by the Citizens' League of New Orleans a thorough reform of the government in that city has been effected. A new charter, drafted by the League, was passed by the legislature and went into effect in August. Its provisions embody the ideas most strongly advocated by municipal reformers: A paid city council; single heads of departments, appointed and removed by the mayor; a civil-service commission providing competitive examinations for all non-elective offices; and the sale of all franchises to the highest bidder. — In San Francisco a charter drafted under reform auspices and embodying stringent provisions for excluding political influence in appointments to office was rejected by the voters at the November elections. — In Chicago the first year of work of the civil-service commission which resulted from the reform triumph in April, 1895 (see *RECORD* for June, 1895, p. 374), was completed in August. The record of its activity shows that it has practically abolished all the evils of the spoils system in appointments to municipal offices. — In accordance with an act of the last New York legislature looking to the consolidation of New York, Brooklyn and a number of suburban districts into a single municipality, a commission has been at work throughout the summer formulating a draft charter for the proposed municipality. The *personnel* of the commission and the results of their deliberations thus far made public indicate that progressive ideas will be manifest in the instrument when completed.

LYNCH LAW. — A summary of the lynchings of which reports have come to the attention of the compiler shows the following results: In the South (*i.e.* slave states in 1860), twenty-five negroes and six white men; in the rest of the country, two whites and one half-breed Indian. The offenses

alleged were among the negroes actual or attempted rape in twelve cases, other crimes in thirteen ; among the whites, rape in two cases, other offenses in three ; in case of the half-breed Indian, rape. These figures exclude several instances of so-called "race war," in which conflicts between armed whites and armed blacks in considerable bodies resulted in loss of life, generally most serious on the side of the blacks. Incidents of this kind were reported in Florida and in Georgia during July, and in Arkansas in August. Of the whites lynched in the South three were Italians, who were taken from jail and killed by a mob in St. Charles Parish, Louisiana, August 9, under circumstances that recalled the incident at New Orleans in 1891. The prisoners were under charges of murder, the victims in two of the cases having been Italians and in the third an American. It was believed that all the crimes were the work of a Mafia ; and when the last occurred, the neighbors of the victim took the assassin from jail, and at the same time concluded, after discussion, that the other two had better be disposed of in the same way. The Italian minister made representations on this matter at Washington, and an indemnity was promised. Louisiana was the scene of the largest percentage of lynchings. That none was reported from South Carolina was attributed to the influence of the law lately enacted there in reference to the subject (see last RECORD, p. 379).

II. FOREIGN NATIONS.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. — Beyond the actions of the powers in connection with Turkish affairs, described below, the general trend of diplomatic relations has been illustrated by the incidents of the **Czar's visit** to the courts of the other great powers. Accompanied by the Czarina, Nicholas II met the Austrian emperor at Vienna, August 27, the German emperor at Breslau, September 5, Queen Victoria at Balmoral, September 22, and entered France at Cherbourg, October 5. The feature of the whole journey was the magnificent ceremony with which the Russian monarch was received and entertained in France, and especially in Paris. His presence was made the occasion of most impressive popular festivities, and every means was employed to emphasize the cordial relations between the two nations. The German emperor appeared scarcely less eager in courting the Czar's favor, and the whole press of Europe has been busily engaged in earnest but quite untrustworthy interpretations of every incident of the journey as bearing on possible developments in international politics. In connection with this discussion Prince Bismarck's newspaper organ, the *Hamburger Nachrichten*, published, October 26, an article revealing that from 1884 to 1890 Germany had a secret treaty with Russia, in which each agreed to remain neutral in case the other should be attacked by a third power. This revelation, indicating that Bismarck had not allowed his participation in the Triple Alliance to interfere with the maintenance of an understanding

with the Czar, caused a considerable sensation throughout Europe. — In the field of **commercial relations**, two incidents are worthy of record. During the summer, in consequence of a concession by the Spanish Cortes, the tariff war between Spain and Germany (see this *QUARTERLY*, vol. ix, p. 772) was brought to an end. On September 30 a treaty was signed between Italy and France, as protector of Tunis, by which the tariff discriminations against Italian goods imported into Tunis were abolished. In consideration of this, Italy abandoned the exemption of her subjects from the jurisdiction of the French courts in Tunis. The importance of the treaty lies in the fact that in it Italy recognizes the French protectorate over Tunis, and thus a long-standing source of irritation between the two nations is removed.

TURKEY AND THE CHRISTIANS. — The internal condition of the Sultan's dominion has not improved during the period under review. **The slaughter of Armenians** has been almost continuous, with three episodes of particular prominence. At the city of Van, in the latter part of June, a demonstration by Armenian revolutionary agitators was promptly followed by the massacre of some 1200 Armenians and the destruction of great quantities of property by fire and pillage. More attention was attracted by the affair at Constantinople in August. On the 26th a concerted demonstration by Armenian agitators was made in various parts of the city. Most of the outbreaks were readily suppressed by the police. But at the central point of the affair was a band of some twenty-five conspirators, who, provided with fire-arms and dynamite, seized by force the Ottoman Bank, held its employees as hostages, and maintained for many hours a brisk conflict with the troops which quickly surrounded their stronghold. Through foreign officials the adventurers, who threatened to blow up the building, were at length induced to leave on guarantee of their personal safety. But for their fellow-countrymen in the city no such security was possible. As soon as the news of the exploit got abroad a general movement of the Mohammedan populace against all Armenians began, and for several days the whole city was a scene of slaughter and plundering. While the work was largely carried on by the lower classes of Turks, charges were freely made and evidence offered that government officials gave direction and organization to the mobs, and that the troops were not seriously used for the suppression of the disorders. Quiet was restored only after very energetic representations to the Porte by the ministers of the powers. It was estimated that over 2000 Armenians were killed by the rioters; and afterwards, through the proceedings instituted by the authorities for rooting out the revolutionary agitators, many more suffered legal punishment, and thousands went into voluntary or involuntary exile. In the middle of September a third slaughter on a large scale was reported from Armenia, the town of Eguin on the upper Euphrates being destroyed and a thousand of its people killed. A number of minor incidents of this character were attributed to the discontent and real misery of the Turkish soldiery who

occupy the country, and who, owing to the Porte's financial difficulties, have in many cases neither pay nor supplies. — As to the relations between **the powers and the Porte** on the Armenian question, no evidence has appeared of a change in the status established at the very beginning of the difficulty. Russia, supported by the Continental powers, refuses either to unite in joint action or to permit isolated action beyond diplomatic pressure for general administrative reforms. During the riots at Constantinople the apparent danger of a general massacre of Christians brought the six powers together in a peremptory demand upon the Porte for the suppression of the disorder, and joint notes of August 31 and September 15 alleged in emphatic terms that the rioters had had official support. This allegation the Porte denied, laying all responsibility for the disturbance upon the Armenian revolutionists. During September a vehement agitation, through public meetings and the press, arose in Great Britain for decisive action against the Sultan. Mr. Gladstone, in frequent letters and in a fiery address before a great meeting at Liverpool, September 24, denounced Abdul Hamid as "the great assassin"; and this cry was taken up by many of the Liberal leaders. The ministry and its supporters opposed to the agitation the plea that action by Great Britain alone would precipitate a general European war. A similar agitation, though on a much smaller scale, developed in Germany and elsewhere on the Continent, but it was stoutly opposed by the governments and the influential press. During the first week in November the Sultan, stimulated apparently by a speech of the French minister of foreign affairs in which joint action by the powers was distinctly threatened, issued orders for the execution in Constantinople and Asia Minor of a number of reformatory measures which the ambassadors had long been urging in vain. At the same time, to relieve the financial straits of the government, a poll tax was levied on the Mohammedan population, in the form, however, of a voluntary subscription. — Toward the end of May the perennial tension between **Christians and Moslems in Crete** developed into civil war, and introduced a new element of confusion into Turkish affairs. Discontented with the government's refusal to summon the legislature as required by law, and probably influenced by Greek revolutionary agitators, the Christians in various places attacked the Turkish garrisons. The Mohammedans of the towns promptly took up the cause of their co-religionists, and the usual savagery of race and religious warfare manifested itself throughout the west of the island. Heavy bodies of troops were hurried to the scene by the Porte, while many volunteers and supplies in considerable quantities came to the Christians from Greece, where popular sympathy for the insurgents was strong and demonstrative. The European powers busied themselves from the outset in restraining the excesses of the conflict, on the one hand making energetic representations to the Porte against the ferocious proceedings of the ill-disciplined and unpaid soldiery, and on the other hand requiring the Greek government to repress the movements of its subjects in support of the insurgents. Upon the begin-

ning of serious fighting the Sultan promptly called together the Cretan assembly ; but this step failed to calm the tumult, and the Christian leaders demanded further reforms and guarantees for the redress of grievances before resuming their political functions. Even the appointment by the Porte of a Christian governor in June did not satisfy the Christians. Finally, after the usual diplomatic delays, the Sultan about the middle of August signified his consent to a scheme of reforms presented by the powers. With the promulgation of this scheme in September the disorders died out. The agreement amounts to a new constitution for Crete, important features being as follows : a Christian governor, with a five-year term, and endowed with both civil and military authority ; offices to be filled by Christians and Mohammedans in the proportion of two to one ; a general assembly, elected and meeting biennially ; an independent judicial system ; and an equal division of the customs revenue between Crete and the Porte. All the provisions were put under the guarantee of the powers, and at the end of this RECORD the diplomats were engaged in urging the Sultan to carry them into execution. — The trouble in Crete and the incidental excitement in Greece stimulated insurrectionary movements in Macedonia in July. Bands of Greeks entered this province and skirmished with the Turkish troops ; and at the same time Bulgarian agitators emulously stirred up disorder on the northern frontier. None of these enterprises, however, assumed great importance. — In the district of the Hauran, in Syria, the Druses have throughout the period carried on a more or less successful struggle against the Turkish forces.

THE TRANSVAAL AND GREAT BRITAIN. — The tension between the Transvaal and the British government remained great during the first half of the period under review, but gradually relaxed as the final decisions were reached in the matters connected with last winter's exciting collision. The members of the Reform Committee who were in the hands of the Boer authorities were ultimately all released on paying fines and promising not to take part in Transvaal politics. In case of the four leaders who were originally condemned to death, the fine of each was fixed at £25,000. Col. Rhodes, brother of the former premier of the Cape Colony, declined to give the pledge to abstain from politics and hence was banished for life. In England Dr. Jameson and five of his companions in the raid were convicted in London, July 28, of violating the Foreign Enlistment Act, and were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment, without hard labor. Jameson's term was the greatest — fifteen months. In the Cape Colony a legislative select committee, after investigation of the Transvaal raid, reported, July 22, that Mr. Cecil Rhodes, when premier of the colony, directed and controlled the preparations for the affair, though unaware of Jameson's intention to move at the time he did. One other director of the South Africa Company, the committee found, was associated with Mr. Rhodes in the plot, and the company's treasury supplied the funds for the enterprise. The finding of this committee coincides with other evidence,

including the statements of members of the Reform Committee, in establishing the fact that, while a revolution had been planned at Johannesburg, which Jameson was to aid in case of need, the latter's actual invasion of the Transvaal was premature, and found the conspirators at Johannesburg unprepared to perform their part. A select committee was appointed by the British government during the summer to investigate all the affairs of the South Africa Company. In view of the revelations as to the connection of Mr. Rhodes with the raid, the directors revoked all the special authority which he had possessed in managing the company's affairs. The government of the Transvaal was early in the summer evidently very suspicious of all things British, and devoted considerable energy to the procurement of arms and war material. A better feeling seemed to prevail later in the season, and the Volksraad enacted measures of a conciliatory nature in respect to the *uitlanders*, particularly one providing for the education of their children in the language of their parents.

THE ANARCHISTS. — In Spain a resumption of activity by the sectaries at Barcelona was signalized by the explosion of a bomb thrown at a religious procession, June 7. Eleven persons were killed and forty wounded. Isolated outrages by dynamite were reported from various parts of the kingdom. A large number of arrests were made, but no one has as yet been convicted of the Barcelona offense. In August the Cortes passed a law making crimes committed by means of explosives triable by court-martial, authorizing the banishment of any one professing to be an anarchist, and increasing the penalties for participation in, or connection with, anarchist outrages. — On the 13th of September, at the instance of the British police, two Irishmen were arrested at Rotterdam and one at Boulogne on charge of being concerned in a dynamite plot against the royal family in England. An individual in Glasgow was also arrested as concerned in the conspiracy. No authentic information was divulged concerning the plans of the plotters, but unusual precautions were taken to guard the royal family and the public buildings, especially during the visit of the Czar. Ultimately the Rotterdam prisoners were released, as was Tynan at Boulogne. The extradition of the latter was demanded by Great Britain, on the charge of complicity in the Phoenix Park murder in 1882; but the demand was refused by the French government. The Glasgow suspect was held on the charge of having explosives in his possession. — At the fourth International Socialist Trade Union Congress, which met at London, July 27, a test of strength on the question of admitting delegates holding anarchistic views resulted in their exclusion by a vote of 203 to 104.

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND. — **Parliament** remained in session until August 14. On one of its leading measures, the Education Bill, the government came to grief. The bill passed its second reading, May 12, by 423 to 156, all the Irish factions supporting it on account of its aid to the voluntary schools and its encouragement of religious instruction. The Liberal opposition to it was so vigorous, however, that on June 22,

after eleven days of debate in committee, Mr. Balfour admitted that it could not be put through in the time allotted to the session without resort to "closure by compartments" — a device which he declined to employ. Accordingly the bill was abandoned, with the promise that a new one on the same subject should be brought in next January. The Agricultural Rating Bill reached its final passage in the Commons, July 1, the decisive vote standing 292 to 140. The Irish Land Bill passed its third reading in the Commons, July 29, the Irish factions supporting it as facilitating purchase and embodying an installment of justice to tenants. In the House of Lords a number of far-reaching amendments were carried in the interest of the Irish landlords, and considerable friction developed between the two houses. On August 13, however, the opposition of the Lords was overcome and the bill was finally passed. Other important measures that became law were the Diseases of Animals Bill, prohibiting the importation of foreign cattle; the Coal Mines Regulation Bill, aiming to prevent explosions; and the Light Railways Bill, promoting the construction of such roads in the agricultural districts. The Deceased Wife's Sister Bill was carried rather unexpectedly in the House of Lords, June 22, by 142 to 113. It did not come before the Commons. — The period under review has presented some important incidents in the internal affairs of **the Liberal Party**. The support given by the Irish Nationalists to the Education Bill stirred up intense indignation among the nonconformists in May. Leading preachers and periodicals of the dissenting sects claimed that by this action of the Nationalists the alliance with the Liberals was ended, and declared that Irish home rule could no longer be a feature of Liberal Party policy. On the 6th of October Lord Rosebery announced his formal retirement from the leadership of the Liberal Party. He had never had the hearty support of the whole party, either chiefs or rank and file. But the immediate occasion for his retirement he declared to be his inability to adopt the view as to Great Britain's policy in the Eastern question which was held by a large number of Liberals and which had just been set forth by Mr. Gladstone in his Liverpool speech (see above). No step toward the formal choice of a successor to Lord Rosebery was taken. — In the field of **Irish affairs** several important incidents are to be recorded. On August 13 the home secretary announced the release from prison of four Irish agitators who were undergoing life sentences for complicity in dynamite plots in 1883–84. The ground assigned for the release was the hopeless illness of the prisoners. An agitation for the pardon of these dynamiters had long been carried on, but up to that time had been firmly opposed by both Liberal and Conservative ministries. — A final report of the royal commission on the financial relations between Great Britain and Ireland was published September 5. The thirteen commissioners are practically unanimous in the conclusion that since the Union Ireland has carried a burden of taxation relatively greater than Great Britain, and hence unjust; that with a taxable capacity of not more than one-twentieth, Ireland

has contributed one-eleventh of the revenue. — In a strenuous effort to secure once more some degree of cohesion among the Nationalists, a "Convention of the Irish Race" met at Dublin September 1-3. Delegates were present from the United States, Canada, Australasia and South Africa, as well as from Great Britain and Ireland, and the foreigners labored diligently for a restoration of harmony among the factions. No important results followed, however, as the Parnellites and Healeyites, though strongly urged to be present, refused to have anything to do with the convention, and denounced it as the mere scheme of a faction to win financial support for a discredited leader (Dillon).

THE BRITISH COLONIES AND INDIA. — In **Canada** the general elections for the Dominion parliament took place June 23, and resulted in a decisive victory for the Liberals for the first time since 1878. The Manitoba school question played a prominent part in the campaign, though the province of Quebec, where the hierarchy issued a formal mandate to Catholics to support the Conservatives, showed heavy Liberal gains. Sir Charles Tupper and his Conservative cabinet, without meeting the parliament, resigned July 8, and were succeeded at once by Mr. Wilfred Laurier and a Liberal ministry. A session of the new parliament was held August 19-October 5, for the transaction of routine financial business exclusively. Mr. Laurier's majority in the House of Commons was about forty. In November a tariff commission appointed by the government began a series of inquiries in different cities in the Dominion with a view to the framing of a bill for the reduction of duties. — At the meeting of the **Newfoundland** legislature in June an extraordinarily reassuring condition of the finances was announced by the governor. A surplus of \$200,000 appeared in the report, and the credit of the government was high. In view of these facts it was proposed to increase the appropriations for highways and education, which, with all other expenses, had been reduced to an uncomfortable minimum. — During May and June the parliaments of all the **Australasian colonies** began their regular sessions. The revenue returns indicated a permanent recovery from the financial depression of recent years. In New South Wales the government announced a radical program of legislation, including a project for the referendum, and a reform of the Legislative Council (the upper house of parliament) by the payment of members and the abolition of life tenure. The referendum bill was passed by the assembly, but was rejected by the council. In South Australia also the establishment of the referendum was proposed by the government, as well as the election of ministries by popular vote. The assembly of Victoria passed in November bills establishing woman suffrage and abolishing plural voting. As to the question of federation, Queensland and West Australia, the two colonies which failed last year to pass the enabling act for the constitutional convention, took up the subject in the current sessions, but had reached no definite conclusion at the end of this RECORD. The Queensland bill deviated from the project

agreed to at the conference of premiers last year (see RECORD for June, 1895, p. 378) in providing that the delegates to the convention should be elected not by the people, but by the Legislative Assembly; and West Australia followed this example. — In **India** strong protests were elicited from both the government and the press by the resolution of the British government to put upon the Indian budget most of the expense of a detachment of Indian troops which was sent to Suakin to support the movement on the Nile against the Dervishes. The ministry persisted in its policy, but Mr. Balfour made certain pledges tending to restrict and render more equitable similar actions in the future.

FRANCE. — The **Chambers** were in session from May 28 to July 11, and reassembled for the winter session on October 27. Of the work of the summer that which excited most interest was the discussion of the Méline cabinet's proposition for direct-tax reform, presented by M. Cochery, the minister of finance, early in June. The chief features of the scheme were a tax on *rentes*, an increase of the tax on houses, and a tax based on rent, servants and horses. The plan was reported favorably from the budget committee, but after some debate in the Chamber was laid over until autumn. In connection with the discussion a Radical counter-project of a progressive income tax was rejected by 283 to 254. Beyond the routine acts the only important measure that became law was that providing for the annexation of Madagascar as a colony. When the Chambers reassembled in October, it was announced that the proposed tax on *rentes* had been abandoned. — Far more than in any matters of domestic policy was French political interest centered in the events that related to the Russia *entente* — the coronation of the Czar and his visit to the Western states (see above).

GERMANY. — The **Reichstag** remained in session till July 2. All the government's important measures referred to in the last RECORD were passed. That directed against unfair competition became law May 27. Under its provisions new legal remedies are given to a tradesman who is injured by a rival through false weights and measures, lying advertisements or commercial slander, and some forms of such "unfair" methods are made penal. The Bourse Bill was passed June 6, with the anti-option clause noticed in the last RECORD. This law, which goes into effect January 1, 1897, establishes a rigid governmental supervision of all stock and produce exchanges in Germany, and provides extensive regulations in regard to the listing and quoting of securities. The prohibition of speculative contracts in grain, and to some extent in securities, caused German firms to transfer to other countries their business in these lines; and to counteract this the Reichstag, on the motion of an Agrarian, passed a resolution requesting the government to open negotiations with foreign governments looking to international measures for the suppression of the business. A bill of Agrarian origin for the restriction of the oleomargarine business was passed by the Reichstag on July 2, but was rejected by the Bundesrath. Of all the measures of the session the Imperial Civil Code attracted the

greatest attention. It passed its third reading in the Reichstag July 1, by a vote of 222 to 48, and will go into effect January 1, 1900. As adopted the code is substantially the same as when laid before the house. The bill for the reform of the sugar tax, involving an increase of the export bounty, was adopted in May, after a sharp contest, by 144 to 124. — **The Prussian Landtag** ended its session June 20. Besides the routine financial legislation and a few measures for the benefit of the agricultural regions, no business of importance was concluded. The government's leading measures, regulating the appointment of judges and the salaries of school-teachers, and reorganizing chambers of commerce, all failed to pass. — Two important **cabinet changes** took place during the summer. At the beginning of July Baron von Berlepsch, Prussian minister of commerce, retired, and was succeeded by Herr Brefeld. Von Berlepsch has been regarded as the leader in the policy of social amelioration through governmental action which was inaugurated by the emperor in 1890 (see this *QUARTERLY*, vol. v, p. 380), and the minister's retirement was construed as an indication that the imperial favor had been withdrawn from the further development of this policy. In the middle of August the resignation was announced of General Bronsart von Schellendorff, Prussian minister of war. Ill health was assigned as the cause; but the press very generally insisted that the retirement was due really to friction between the minister and the chief of the emperor's "military cabinet," the personal council of his Majesty. It was feared that the incident portended the failure of a scheme of reform in the administration of justice in the army — a reform that had been promised by the minister; such a project was, however, presented to the Bundesrath in October. Lieutenant-General von Gossler succeeded to the ministry of war. — A number of Social-Democratic leaders who were arrested for violation of the anti-socialist laws were convicted in May, but punished only by light fines. On June 28 Prince Hohenlohe announced that these laws, so far as they related to political associations, were to be modified or repealed. In midsummer the minister of war issued two decrees directed to the repression of the socialistic propaganda in the army. Privates and sub-officers were forbidden to attend meetings not officially approved; to participate in any manifestations, such as songs or cries, "of a revolutionary or Social-Democratic character"; to possess or circulate literature of such character; or to engage in the circulation of any printed matter whatever at the instance of any person in civil life.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY. — **Legislative activity** of importance at Vienna was limited to the adoption of the Electoral Reform Bill, without debate, by the House of Peers, May 28, and the enactment of a law, prompted by the corresponding act of the German legislature, to increase the tax and the bounty on sugar. The Reichsrath reassembled from its summer vacation on the first of October, but only routine business was taken up, as a dissolution is expected, in order to hold elections under the new law. At Pesth

the chief work in the Hungarian parliament was the passage by the lower house, at the end of June, of a bill directed against the influence of the clergy in elections, providing severe penalties for attempts to exert pressure on voters by means of ecclesiastical or religious authority. This bill was aimed particularly at the People's Party, which was organized under clerical auspices during the struggle over the Civil Marriage Act, and which has since become an important factor in politics. — Elections for the lower house of the Hungarian parliament were held at the end of October. Much disorder attended the canvass, especially in regions where the People's Party was active, and large numbers of troops were employed in preserving the peace. The result of the elections was an increased majority for the moderate Liberals who now control the house and the government. The People's Party returned only twenty members — a number quite insignificant as compared with the commotion the party had caused. — It was announced in the middle of July that the committees of conference on the renewal of the *Ausgleich* between the two monarchies had agreed on all the points involved except that touching the quotas of financial contributions. Further discussion of this was postponed till the autumn. — The opening of a navigable channel through the Iron Gates of the Danube was celebrated with imposing ceremonies September 27. The Emperor Francis Joseph and the kings of Servia and Roumania took part, and the event was regarded as likely to strengthen Austrian influence in the lesser kingdoms.

ITALY. — The parliament remained in session until July 22. On May 30, in connection with the debate on the budget of the interior, Premier di Rudini, after announcing a purpose of administrative reform in terms that reflected on the practices of his predecessor, carried a vote of confidence by only three majority. A very large number of deputies abstained from voting, and this fact seems to have been regarded as a sufficient warrant for the cabinet's retaining office. An important step in administrative and political reform was involved in the measure adopted by the Chamber of Deputies July 7, making elective the syndics, or mayors, of all the communes. Hitherto in all communes except the more important towns these officers have been appointed by the government, and the places have constituted a conspicuous element in the patronage of the deputies and have played an important part in parliamentary corruption. Of the other work of the session the government's Sicilian policy held the first place. On July 11 the Chamber, by a large majority, approved the ministry's confessedly illegal action in placing Sicily under the administration of a single civil commissioner (see last RECORD). In the debate on this subject the Marquis di Rudini outlined an extensive scheme of economic and fiscal reform which he proposed to carry out in Sicily. Certain minor items in this scheme (*e.g.* the abolition of the export duty on sulphur) were at once introduced as bills and were carried before the adjournment. The preference given to these measures over an important bill, already passed by the Senate, for the reorganization and numerical reduction of the army, caused

the resignation of General Ricotti, the minister of war. This led to a **reconstruction of the cabinet** July 14, with some further changes in its *personnel*, Visconti Venosta assuming the ministry of foreign affairs and Luzzatti that of the treasury.

SPAIN AND CUBA. — The situation in Cuba has continued to be the key to Spanish politics. From June to September, while the wet season lasted, military operations in the island were of merely a desultory character. In addition to the *trocha* west of Havana (see last RECORD) the Spanish commander constructed one much longer, but apparently less effective, from Moron to Jucaro, to hold the main Cuban army, under Gomez, in the eastern provinces, Puerto Principe and Santiago. The insurgents were occupied during the summer in accumulating arms and munitions. A number of filibustering expeditions from the United States and from other neighboring countries succeeded in landing these supplies, despite the vigilance of the Spanish vessels. Governor-General Weyler, on his side, sought by various drastic measures to alter certain conditions which aided his enemies. In May he absolutely prohibited the exportation of tobacco, and in July the exportation of fruit. The purpose was to destroy lines of business in which many Cuban sympathizers were engaged, and which thus served indirectly as a source of revenue to the insurgents. On August 20 a decree was issued ordaining the compulsory circulation at par of a large issue of notes put forth by the Spanish bank at Havana under authority of the government. This was followed by so complete a paralysis of business that on September 25 the decree was modified and the stock exchange was permitted to quote the premium on gold. During September and October heavy reinforcements were sent from Spain to Cuba, and in the first week of November General Weyler took the field in person to direct a large force in an effort to annihilate Maceo's isolated army in Pinar del Rio. — The enormous expense of the war in Cuba made the question of the finances dominant in the session of the **Cortes** at Madrid, May 11 to September 7. The address from the throne at the opening of the session dealt largely with the insurrection, holding that the rebels alone were responsible for the failure of the government's purpose to institute extensive reforms in the administration of the island. On June 20 Signor Navarro Reverter, minister of finance, introduced the budget. By economies in administration and by readjustments in the taxes, including the monopolizing of the sale of salt, he looked to a small surplus in the ordinary finances. But to provide for the great extraordinary expense of new ships and war material he had recourse to loans, secured by a prolongation of the tobacco monopoly and by a pledge of the revenue of the state quicksilver mines of Almaden. These loans, producing respectively 60 and 104 millions of pesetas, were sufficient only for immediate necessities. To provide for the outlays incident to a prolongation of the war beyond the summer another loan had to be contemplated. As prerequisite to this, it was considered desirable that certain foreign financiers who were interested in Spanish rail-

ways should be placated by the prolongation of their franchises till 1980. The bills necessary to carry out all these credit operations were introduced by the government early in the summer, but met with a stout resistance from the opposition. Not till word was received of the revolt in the Philippines (see below) did the obstructive tactics yield to considerations of patriotism. The bills were passed in the last week of August, amid many protests against the severe terms exacted by the government's creditors. Upon the adoption of the bill dealing with the railways the Carlist Party formally withdrew in a body from the parliament. The government was authorized to negotiate a loan of 1000 million pesetas (about \$200,000,000 in gold); but despite the concessions to the railways the attempt to procure the money from foreign capitalists failed, and on the first of November it was announced that 400,000,000 would be subscribed by Spanish bankers, on a guarantee of the customs. — An insurrection of natives, with many foreigners and half-breeds, against the Spanish in the Philippine Islands, broke out about August 20. Fighting has been in progress there ever since, and the much-tried resources of the government have been taxed to send thither the military reinforcements that are urgently demanded. Up to the end of this RECORD no evidence had appeared that the Spanish authority was regaining its ground.

RUSSIA. — The Coronation of the Czar, Nicholas II, took place at Moscow, May 26, with the customary pomp and ceremony. The festivities connected with the event extended over two weeks, and were participated in by representatives of all the great nations of the earth, as well as by a million or more of Russian subjects. On the 27th an imperial manifesto was issued proclaiming amnesty for a large number of offenses and considerable remissions of taxes. On the 30th, during the free distribution of food to the people, a panic arose in the crowd, estimated at half a million in number, and before order was restored several thousand persons had been crushed to death or seriously injured. — A commission was appointed in July to make a general investigation of the existing legislation with reference to the Jews, with a view to its revision. — An incident unusual to Russia was a widespread **strike of factory operatives** at St. Petersburg, lasting from April to the middle of July. No disturbance of the peace occurred, but the method and duration of the strike manifested a surprising degree of organization and an abundance of financial resources. The secret agency of foreign agitators was suspected, but if anything of the sort was discovered by the police, no information on the point was made public. It was reported that secret printing establishments had been detected, from which the various "calls" to the strikers were issued. No incitement to violence was contained in these documents. The strike seems to have worn itself out by the middle of July. — Prince Lobanoff-Rostowsky, minister of foreign affairs, died suddenly, August 30, on a railway train in which he was traveling with the Czar from Vienna to Kieff.

MINOR EUROPEAN STATES.—On June 19 the government of Belgium announced the withdrawal of the long-standing proposal looking to the transfer of the Congo State by King Leopold to Belgium. The project had been under consideration of a committee of the legislature, but the opposition to its acceptance had been strong. Elections for the Chamber in July resulted in slight gains for the Clericals at the expense of the Liberals, the Socialists just holding their own.—The States-General of the **Netherlands** passed during the summer a law for a moderate extension of the suffrage. It went into effect in September.—The politicians of the **Balkan States** busied themselves much during the summer with schemes of a confederation—for mutual defense, it was claimed; but the possibility of a partition of Macedonia, if Turkey should fall, was very obviously in the minds of the schemers. At the end of June the Prince of Montenegro visited Belgrade, and the Servian press at once proclaimed that the first step in confederation had been taken. Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria found troubles at home that modified any zeal he may have felt for entangling alliances with his neighbors. Seeking in August to rid himself of his anti-Russian minister of war, Petroff, he was obliged at last to retain the objectionable adviser, for the reason that powerful officers in the army supported the minister as their chief bulwark against supersession by other officers, who, after having been exiled for pro-Russian plotting, had returned and were clamoring for reinstatement in their old ranks. The whole movement for Balkan union is based on Russophil and anti-Austrian ideas.

AFRICA.—The **Anglo-Egyptian expedition** against the Mahdists reached its provisional goal in the middle of September. A sharp fight at Ferket, June 7, resulted in a defeat for the Dervishes. During the summer the expedition rested, awaiting the arrival of steamers with the high water. At the end of August the further advance began, and on September 20, after another defeat for the Dervishes at El Hafir, the steamers seized Dongola without further resistance, capturing or destroying great quantities of stores. Lord Salisbury, in a speech in Parliament, June 13, declared in substance that the ultimate objective of the southern movement was Khartoum and the extinction of the Mahdist power. After the capture of Dongola, however, no further advance was made, and most of the British troops returned to Cairo. The Mixed Tribunal at Cairo decided, June 8, that the application of reserve funds to the expenses of the expedition was illegal, except with the special consent of all the powers represented on the public-debt commission. This decision, which embodies the contention of France and Russia (see last RECORD, p. 381), was appealed from by the representatives of the other powers.—The **native insurrection in Rhodesia** remained unsubdued throughout the summer. Late in August an agreement for peace was made with the insurgents near Buluwayo, largely through the agency of Mr. Cecil Rhodes, who devoted himself to fighting the insurgents all the time that his connection with the Jameson raid was under investigation elsewhere. This agreement was later confirmed by Earl Grey, the

chief officer of the territory. Further to the northeast, however, about Fort Salisbury, the conflict with the natives lasted longer, and had not entirely terminated at the close of this RECORD. — A little trouble in Zanzibar was occasioned by the death of the Sultan, August 25. The throne was at once seized and the palace fortified by a relative of the deceased, Said Khalid, whom the British government, which has a protectorate over Zanzibar, did not approve. As the usurper refused to give up his position, British war-ships bombarded and destroyed the palace, August 27, and set up Hamoud as sultan. The defeated aspirant took refuge in the German consulate and was spirited away to German territory by a war-vessel. — The retirement of the Italians from Abyssinian territory was effected late in May. After long negotiations a definitive treaty between Abyssinia and Italy was concluded, October 26, in which the latter abandoned its protectorate over the former, and King Menelik agreed to release the prisoners whom he had captured at Adowa.

THE ORIENT. — A ministerial crisis in Japan at the beginning of September resulted in the retirement of the Marquis Ito, the prime minister, and Count Itagaki, minister of the interior. After some difficulty a new cabinet was formed by Count Matsukata, who was said to be committed to a policy of retrenchment which, while relieving the existing financial strain, would be likely to offend the popular sentiment in favor of an increased military and naval establishment. An insurrection of the natives in Formosa was crushed by the Japanese forces in July. — As to **Corea** it was reported in September that an agreement had been reached by Russia and Japan establishing some sort of joint protectorate, resembling that maintained by China and Japan before the late war. — The affairs of **China** have attracted attention only indirectly, through the journey of the Viceroy Li Hung Chang through Europe and America. Having attended the coronation of the Czar and received marked courtesies from the Russian government, the Chinese statesman visited Berlin, Paris, London and some of the minor capitals. Everywhere he was received with strong manifestations of official and popular interest and respect. The same was true in the United States. Rumor was busy with suggestions as to political significance in his visits; but all that became certain in this respect was that he asked of Great Britain a modification of the existing treaty so as to permit an increase of the Chinese tariff. In October it was announced that on his return to his home he had been summoned to the chief position in the administration of foreign affairs at Peking.

LATIN AMERICA. — The government of **Venezuela** indicated in May its willingness to pay the indemnity demanded by Great Britain in connection with the Uruan incident, but declined to make an apology for the acts of her officers. It was understood that the United States counseled compliance in full with the terms of the British ultimatum. No definitive settlement has as yet been reported. In June news came of another frontier incident, a British surveyor having been seized by the Venezuelans

while engaged in opening a road in a region east of the Schomburgk line. At the instance of the United States the Venezuelan government at once released the prisoner. — In **Brazil** the last ten days of August were characterized by riotous demonstrations in Sao Paulo, Rio Janeiro, Bahia and other towns against the numerous Italians settled there. The occasion of the movement was the discussion in the national congress of a treaty which had been negotiated for the settlement of losses suffered by Italians during the recent civil war. In consequence of the popular disorders, the congress, after passing the proposed law through two readings, rejected it by a unanimous vote on the third, and the minister of foreign affairs, who had negotiated the treaty, resigned. The Italian government withdrew its minister from Rio Janeiro and demanded reparation for the destruction of its consulate at Bahia by the rioters. When order had been restored the Brazilian government promptly complied with this demand. The friction with Great Britain as to the right to the island of Trinidad was terminated in August by the formal abandonment of the island by the British. — **Chili** passed, during the summer, through the crisis of a disputed presidential election. After two months of excitement and threats of civil war the congress decided by a vote of 62 to 60 in favor of Errazuriz, the Conservative candidate, and this decision was enforced by the existing Liberal executive. — A treaty was agreed upon in May for the settlement of the long-standing boundary dispute between Chili and the Argentine Republic. It provided for the reference of further differences to the queen of England as arbitrator. Not much confidence is manifested by the initiated in the efficiency of this agreement, and the warlike preparations that have for some time taxed the resources of both governments show no signs of relaxation.

WM. A. DUNNING.